

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 FAA-00
DOTE-00 /049 W

-----111766 130129Z /62

R 122035Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0003

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 12087

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1
TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, RO, UK
SUBJECT: UK MAFG EQUIPMENT FOR CIVIL BAC 1-11 AIRCRAFT
TO ROMANIA

REF: (A) COCOM DOC (78) 89, (B) STATE 64247

1. UK DEL SUBMITTED MEMO (COCOM DOC (78) 89.3) TO
COCOM APRIL 10 PROVIDING RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS POSED
REFTEL B. SUBSTANTIVE TEXT OF MEMO AS FOLLOWS:
"(I) ON NATURE OF AIRFRAME: 1-11 AIRFRAME WAS DESIGNED
IN EARLY 1960S AND ITS TECHNOLOGY IS OF THAT PERIOD.
1-11S HAVE BEEN IN REGULAR AIRLINE SERVICE, INCLUDING
IN US, SINCE 1965. FULL TECHNICAL INFORMATION ABOUT
THE AIRCRAFT WAS PROVIDED TO FAA AT THE TIME OF US
VALIDATION OF ITS UK CERTIFICATE OF AIRWORTHINESS. IN-
FORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED TO ROMANIA RELATES TO MANUFAC-
TURE OF THE AIRFRAME ONLY. TECHNICAL AUTHORITY FOR THE
AIRCRAFT WILL REMAIN WITH BRITISH AEROSPACE SO THAT THE
FLOW OF INFORMATION WILL REMAIN UNDER THEIR CONTROL AND
FOR COMMERCIAL, IF FOR NO OTHER REASONS, WILL BE ON A
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NEED TO KNOW BASIS.

(II) ON THE ENGINE: THIS SUBMISSION RELATES SOLELY TO
THE AIRFRAME. AIRCRAFT ASSEMBLED IN ROMANIA WILL BE
FITTED WITH ENGINES MANUFACTURED BY ROLLS ROYCE AND
SUPPLIED FROM UK FOR MOUNTING IN ROMANIA. ONLY THAT
TECHNOLOGY NECESSARY TO MOUNT THE ENGINE WILL BE TRANS-

FERRED. SHOULD, HOWEVER, ROMANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN ENGINE MANUFACTURE BE ENVISAGED WHICH WOULD REQUIRE COCOM CLEARANCE A SEPARATE CASE WOULD BE SUBMITTED.

(III) OTHER TECHNOLOGY: THE TECHNOLOGY TO BE TRANSFERRED RELATES SOLELY TO THE MANUFACTURE OF THE 1-11 AIRFRAME. THIS SHOULD NOT ASSIST THE PRODUCTION OF THE ORAO JET FIGHTER.

(IV) SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT: THE TRANSACTION WILL OF COURSE BROADEN THE BASE OF THE ROMANIAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY BUT WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE INDUSTRY'S ABILITY TO PRODUCE SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT.

THE ROMANIAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE OLDEST IN EXISTENCE. IT HAS, HOWEVER, SUFFERED MANY SET-BACKS AND ITS LATEST REVIVAL DATES BACK ONLY ABOUT TEN YEARS. APART FROM LIGHT AIRCRAFT AND GLIDERS, ALMOST ALL OF THE INDUSTRY'S RECENT ACTIVITY HAS BEEN PRODUCTION

UNDER LICENCE, CURRENT PROGRAMMES INCLUDING AEROSPATIALE ALLOUETTE AND PUMA AND BRITTEN NORMAN ISLANDER. IN ALL OF THESE CASES, AND IN THE CASE OF THE PROPOSED PRODUCTION OF THE COMPLETE ONE-ELEVEN, TECHNICAL AUTHORITY REMAINS WITH THE PARENT COMPANIES WHO HAVE ALSO SUP-

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PORTED EACH PROJECT WITH TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS IN ROMANIA.

WORK PROGRESSES ON THE JOINT ROMANIAN/JUGOSLAV JUROM (ORAO) JET FIGHTER PROGRAMME BUT IT SEEMS THAT DEVELOPMENT HAS RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES AND THE WHOLE PROGRAMME IS SERIOUSLY DELAYED. ASSUMING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS WITH THE PROPOSED BAC ONE-ELEVEN LICENCE AGREEMENT PROGRAMME IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE AT LEAST TEN YEARS FOR THE ROMANIAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY TO ACHIEVE ANYTHING APPROACHING AUTONOMY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF AIRFRAMES FOR CIVIL TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT.

THE INDUSTRY EMPLOYS MAINLY YOUNG ENGINEERS. MOST OF THESE HAVE GOOD ACADEMIC ENGINEERING QUALIFICATIONS BUT, AT PRESENT, HAVE LITTLE OR NO PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE WORK-SHOPS OR IN THE DAY-TO-DAY ADMINISTRATION AND RUNNING OF THE INDUSTRY. WHILE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD HELP TO BUILD-UP PRODUCTION EXPERTISE, IT WILL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0004

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 12087

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TAKE MUCH LONGER TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON DESIGN
CAPABILITY.

THE UNITED KINGDOM AUTHORITIES WISH TO REMIND THOSE
MEMBER COUNTRIES STILL IN RESERVE OF THE URGENCY OF
THIS SUBMISSION. THEY WOULD REFER TO THE POINTS MADE
BY THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATE ON 7 MARCH 1978 (COCOM
DOC (78) 89.1, PARAGRAPH 4) IE THE NEED TO SIGN THE
COLLABORATION AGREEMENT IN APRIL IN PREPARATION FOR
THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT IN JUNE. THOSE MEMBER COUNTRIES
STILL IN RESERVE ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO CONSIDER
THE POINTS ABOVE AND EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AS A
MATTER OF EXTREME URGENCY."

2. UK DEL PRESSING FOR FINAL POSITION AS EARLY AS
POSSIBLE TO PERMIT SIGNING OF THIS CONTRACT DURING
MINISTERIAL MEETING IN ROMANIA PRIOR TO VISIT OF ROMAN-
IAN PRESIDENT TO BRITAIN IN LATE APRIL.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: US VIEWS WILL NOW BE DUE APRIL 24
BUT UK DEL WOULD APPRECIATE AN EVEN EARLIER RESPONSE IF
IF POSSIBLE.

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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